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CUE

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PATIENTS BY MONTHLY

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EDITORIAL

Welcome one and all to Winnebago State Hospital. You are about to enter into another phase of your life whom for most of us is entirely new and different. As you enter through the steel glass doors what are your thoughts fears and apprehensions? Probably many, for it is common that both man and animal when entering into a strange environment to feel some anxiety. Most of us at one time or another have heard comments about this place or have had some thoughts about it. "Hey man, you're crazy, you belong in the nut house." You may let your imagination run away with you to the extent where perhaps you visualize mad screaming patients running down the halls and everybody is strapped up in padded rooms.

Whatever you have imagined, whatever your fears the question is what is done to calm your apprehensions when you enter the hospital. In other words how are you orientated to your new environment. Evidently not much is done to orientate the patient for the same questions were raised over two years ago in a previous issue of the Cue, May 5, 1967.

Let us follow a patient say Mr. X as he enters the hospital and shall we say how he is processed. First off he is brought to the administration section where his personal belongings, ~~some of which are taken away from him are checked in.~~ After this is completed he is whisked away to the Admitting Ward where he turns over the remainder of his clothing and is told it will be marked and returned to him. When, where or how is usually left unsaid. If fortunate he is given the opportunity to wash up and shave if needed. While doing so one of the aides might mention to him just follow the rules and you won't get into any trouble. Mr. X can understand this but just what are the rules he has to follow and what rights does he have? From here he is on his own. He walks into the dayroom and feels like a lone man on an island. Since he isn't supposed to listen to other patients, he is confused about what is fact and what is not. About the only time a nurse or aid says anything to him is when they want a list of some kind.

Every week there is a ward orientation where new patients have a chance to find out what is expected. But it just so happens that Mr. X came late in the week and will remain in the dark for a while. Gradually, however, he learns the routine through the trial and error method whereby many errors and anxieties could have been avoided by a proper first day briefing. We realize the case of Mr. X is not always true, but is for many of us if we think back to those first few days.

One suggestion to increase the coverage of proper orientation would be the employment of a Big Brother or Sister policy. With this method each patient would be assigned a fellow patient, who would explain ward routine, answer questions, make introductions, etc.

It is our understanding that changes in the orientation of new patients being considered by the hospital staff. We are hopeful that the changes when incorporated will be a solution to the problems that now exists.

Kevin

CUE EDITORIAL STAFF

Don ; Kevin
Mary

Ms. Loretta

: Don

; Hildegard

Onick Lemieux; Advisor

ISSUES & ANSWERS

DO YOU FEEL THERE IS ADEQUATE ORIENTATION FOR NEWLY ADMITTED PATIENTS?

I think we should have orientation soon after being admitted. I had been here a week.

Patient

I missed the orientation presentation the first week I was here because it was held while I was at church. I think the staff should make certain that all the new patients attend the meeting.

Patient

I think that too often the patients are admitted and do not receive adequate orientation until they are here for over a week or so. It could be very beneficial if they could be orientated with a day or two after their admission.

Staff

We try to orientate everyone in an adequate manner and would appreciate any suggestions as to doing it better.

Staff

Too much information all at once is not usually able to be absorbed in one session. The most pertinent is tried to be presented fully.

Staff

I feel that attempts are made to give a good orientation of ward routine to patients.

Staff

I think the orientation is very adequate here on 2 West. The patients are orientated within a week prior to their admission. In orientation they are told about the rules of the ward and hospital, then they are given time to ask questions about anything pertaining to the ward or routine.

Yes, I feel that adequate ward orientation is provided to newly admitted patients. Some would like information posted.

Patient

I think all the rules should be written out and given to the patients and that the staff would orientate the person when he first comes in.

Patient

I was here a couple weeks before orientation was held, and then when I asked for the meaning of the statement given to use, I was ignored. I don't think they give adequate orientation at the right time, because when a patient does things wrong that is part of the adequate orientation, he or she gets punished or yelled at!

Patient

Yes I think they tell you all the things you should know. After you have gone to one you feel more at ease because they will tell you answers to all your questions.

Patient

Yes, the patients must have gotten very good orientation as there isn't many questions asked from the patients about the ward.

Staff

Yes, you hear it after you made your error.

Patient

The program they have might be more effective if supplemented by a more comprehensive individual orientation soon after admittance. Patients might be given a printed list of rules, to refer back to.

Patient

A female aid from Sherman hall felt insured that there is a good orientation program going on in her ward. One of the reasons why her program is so successful is that she lets the patients help out orientating new patients.

Staff

He tried to find a person who could help answer questions about his ward, but he never found such a person.

Patient

I was registered and then placed in a closed ward. No one was around to give me a warm welcome when I needed it.

New patient

IRONY TIME

There once was a man who drifted into
oblivion

In search of a direction of which
there seemed none.

As he rested on the precipice of ab-
solute zero.

To experience his mind as it became
undone.

In desperation and in fright he fought
back with all his might.

~~Hoping that tomorrow would die with~~
this night.

Defeated, he looked into the stars
cursed with all his might

Praying that his existence would cease
and float in the river of peace.

K.

Pickup the pieces, baby
Pick up the pieces

Try to put 'em back together again
sing out into the night
let your guts keeck out
use your gift of sight
and smell the love th t exists

reach down into the pit
and put it back together again

understand it not
use it for it is there
and let it come together and grow
together again as one

Kevin

A BLACK AND WHITE SURPRISE

Those of you who haven't been to
the canteen in recent weeks will be
delighted to know that our canteen has
added a brand new television set. It
is located in a quiet corner where the
reception is excellent. We are hoping
the patients will bring visitors, rel-
atives and friends over to your can-
teen to view their favorite shows, plus
all the football games as soon as pos-
sible. It is ours to enjoy, so let us
all do exactly that.

Mary

HE NEVER LEFT

God came down to a world
a long time ago

God lowered himself
to his own creation
(made in his image)
came down in a man, a human, a soul

God came down in a man
came down in a man
of LOVE
Who lived LOVE

That man was nailed to a cross
because he LOVED his God
his fellowman.

God came down to earth a long time
ago

He Never Left

When will Man come down to earth
to LOVE Him?

Jerry

On the Sober Side

Watching a child open a present is one of the most rewarding experiences available to a person. The gift itself inspires a squeal of glee, and once unwrapped the glee becomes shrill praise in the most delighted sense. No one can fail to be moved by the sheer joy and love of life projected to all around the experience.

Unfortunately, somewhere along our way to adulthood we lose many of these small delights in and around life. We grow up to be problem-centered and see everything as a problem instead of something in which we might delight. We are coming to the shopping period before Christmas in which we find no delight but rather a chore or task in the selections we must make and the expenditures to be made. A perennially delightful time of year, an opportunity for exaltation, exhilaration and pure joy, will be lost because we make a problem of it. And so it goes, a potential for joy exercised into a term of conscience and worry. We have lost, somewhere, the joy of existence the delight in simply being.

If we listen to the conversations around us we find they all are too problem centered. Should we build a new school and pay the extra taxes, on which side are we allied? Will we lose a friend if we lean to one side or the other. Our jobs are fraught with problems piling on top of other problems—a task to be accomplished today that will demand the extra time that we needed to finish the job from yesterday.

Then there's the problem of traffic on the way to work, the car and its maintenance, the luncheon tab. Problems, problems and no one ever tells us how to correct them.

Our potential for delight in life is never realized because we are problem centered, striving, tired, solution bent. We take no thought for the day itself for the morrow seems sufficiently evil to drive us up our proverbial wall.

Comments have been made about the lovelessness of our culture. Without love there is no joy, without joy there is no delight. All things have become as we ourselves are—rational, logical, educated, intelligent, principled and LOVELESS.

Look at the joy of that child mentioned earlier—how many of us have had one moment of ecstasy such as that in the last year and how we envy them their innocence.

A child loves life. We have become so problem centered and solution conscious that we have forgotten how to love life. We have forgotten how to enjoy the simple pleasures of life, we have forgotten what life is about—what is fun—and completely miss the delight of existence.

In what do we delight? In what do we find joy? In what do we revel and find love? God finds joy in his creation. We are so wrapped up in it that we forget about enjoying it.

There is little enough time in life, any way, to spend it contemplating the troubles and worries—enjoy it. Delight in it. Life is to be lived, not tolerated; enjoyed, not solved; delighted in not pondered over, and experienced not discussed. One can make all the problems he wants, and there will be another pile just waiting for him to finish the first one. But there may not be enough life left to enjoy it after one gets done.

We seemingly stand stripped naked of delight and joy. Our joyless existence is our greatest sin. Perhaps we could recapture it if we but thought about it.

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE

"Let these people thank Jehovah for his love---for his marvels on behalf of men"---ps. 107. The psalmist here is encouraging the people of God to acknowledge and esteem the loving care which their Lord has extended to them. He entreats them to realize how beholden they are to Him, not only for their very existence but more so for their sacred heritage as His Chosen Ones and His promise of deliverance. They must never take for granted His unique and preferential loyalty and commitment to them.

We of the New Covenant believe that His love of the Father for His people took a magnificent new form in the person of Jesus Christ--His beloved Son and our Savior. He is the embodiment of God's love for His people. Moreover, membership in the People of God is no longer restricted to the Jewish Nation, but includes all who believe in Jesus and are baptized.

We can begin to understand the depth of St. Paul's statement to his converts at Corinth---"I never stop thanking God for all the graces you have received through Jesus Christ that you have been enriched in so many ways."

To whom are we thankful?---Our loving Father in His Son. For what?---Deliverance from our own weaknesses, selfishness, suffering, alienation and meaninglessness, and the invitation to a share, even now, in the messianic blessings---Peace and Love.

Father Nelson

THEY DO LAUGH HERE

A wise man said, "Winning is not everything, but losing is nothing."

Teachers seem to think that the length of a test is like the length of a dress - both should cover the subject thoroughly.

Daffynishion: Naval reserve spare belly button--

Did you know that Columbus actually started out with 12 shirts? Nine of them fell off the edge of the Earth.

I wish I were a kangaroo. Despite his funny stances, I'd have a place to put the junk my girl friend brings to dances.

My teacher loves me, She thinks I'm dear, She's kept me for the fourth straight year.

An elevator operator had a rather hectic day. His patience was strained. "What would happen if the cables broke? Would we go up or down?" a little old lady asked. "That, madam," the operator sighed "would depend entirely on the kind of life you've led."

Eddie: I know a guy who took car parvs off ten cars and put them all together. Q: What did he get? Eddie: twenty years!

Census taker: Your name, please? Housewife: Matilda Brown. Census taker: Your age? Housewife: Have the Hill sisters next door given you their age yet? Census taker: No ma'am. Housewife: Well then, I'm the same age as they are. Census taker: OK, I'll put down "Matilda Brown --old as the hills.

Pedro: What's the difference between a donkey and a postage stamp? Pablo: You lick a donkey with a stick and stick a stamp with a lick.

Melvin: What do you get when you cross an elephant with a jar of peanut butter?

Rufus: "Either a jar of peanut butter that never forgets or an elephant that sticks to the roof of your mouth.

Mrs. Julianne Farrow, R.N.
Nursing